

Statute & Rules Review Workgroup

Department Chair: Tom Adams

ADRE Assistant Commissioner of Investigations

Tom Adams is an Arizona native, born and raised in Bisbee. He graduated from Northern Arizona University and moved to Washington State where he spent 25 years with the Washington State Patrol. Tom held several positions with the State Patrol, including commanding the statewide auto theft investigation program, directing the basic training classes for cadets at the academy, and managing the fiscal office (including preparation and oversight of a \$250 million budget).

After retiring from the State Patrol, Tom created a new police department for the Skokomish Indian tribe, then worked for the City of Centralia, Washington, as Director of Administrative Services. This position was in charge of the personnel, fiscal, and risk management operations for the city.

Upon returning to Arizona, Tom worked for the Arizona Medical Board and was Deputy Director, managing the investigations, compliance, and IT functions, as well as being PIO and managing budget preparation, legislative issues, and rule writing.

Tom has been with the Department of Real Estate since 2003 and has served as Director of Investigations (now Assistant Commissioner, Investigations) as well as a number of other assignments.

Industry Chair: Robert Bass

Real Estate Attorney

Robert is a graduate of Arizona State University ('73) and A.S.U. Law School ('77). From 1981-1986 he served as the Administrative Law Judge for the Arizona Department of Real Estate. During his more than 20 years of private law practice he has focused on representation and defense of real estate professionals. His areas of expertise include errors and omissions claims and license complaints. He has been awarded an **AV** Rating by Martindale-Hubbe, which means his professional peers rank him at the highest level of professional excellence.

A nationally known educator in the fields of risk reduction and brokerage management, Robert is a former President of the Arizona Real Estate Educators Association, and serves on the Board of Directors of the Hispanic Association of Real Estate Professionals (HAREP). Along with his private practice, Robert is Vice-President and General Counsel of Dan Schwartz Realty, Inc. Although not a real estate licensee, Robert is a proud REALTOR®, and serves as a Large Firm National Director of N.A.R., as a State Director of A.A.R. and he serves on the N.A.R. Risk Management Committee.

Development Statute Review Subcommittee

Department Chair: Roy Tanney

Assistant Commissioner, Developments, ADRE

Roy R. Tanney has been Assistant Commissioner of Development Services, formerly Director of Subdivisions, for the Arizona Department of Real Estate for the past 24 years. He has also served as the agency's Designated Public Lobbyist and Legislative Liaison. He joined the Department in 1980 as a subdivision representative. Before his career with the Department of Real Estate, he worked in the title insurance industry for seven years. He holds a real estate salesperson's license and attended college in Pennsylvania.

Industry Chair: Ann White

Designated Broker, Lennar Homes

Ms. White has been a real estate professional for 30 years and has been with U S Home for 23 years either in New Home Sales or in management since 1987. She is the 2006 Chair for the Carondelet Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports three hospitals in Southern Arizona (St. Joseph, St. Mary and Holy Cross). In the past, she has served as the Southern Arizona Home Builders Association Pac Committee Chair as well as being on the Board of the Tucson Association of Realtors®. She is also the proud grandmother of seven grandchildren.

Kurt LaBotz

ADRE Development Services

After spending 20 years in the printing industry, Kurt came to work at the Department as a temp in Customer Service Division and was hired on full time. He moved for a short time to the front counter of the Licensing Division and then back to Customer Service Division, until it changed it's name to Consumer Assistance Team. He was moved to the Investigation Division CAT Team until he became a Subdivision Representative. He obtained his real estate license December 29, 2000. He likes reading about military history (battles) and true crime, and he enjoys playing military war games -- both board and computer. His favorite books are Campaigns of Napoleon and Battles and Leaders of the Civil War. His favorite board game is Viktory II, and his favorite computer game is Waterloo by Talonsoft. He has been married to his best friend for 23 years and has 2 cats.

Bill Day

ADRE Investigations Manager

Bill been employed by the Arizona Department of Real Estate for about 20 years. Experience includes investigations and subdivision compliance. For the past three years has been Deputy Director of Investigation specializing in subdivision and development investigations. Bill has a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration from Arizona State University. Bill has a designation of a Certified Fraud Examiner by the Association Of Certified Fraud Examiners, an association with 32,000 members

and local chapters in over 100 countries. He became a real estate licensee in 1984 and his license is on inactive status. He has 10 years law enforcement experience with the Phoenix Police Department as an Officer and instructor at the police academy. Bill has a Community College Certificate for Real Estate and Law Enforcement. Bill was Operations Manager for an Arizona Company who manufactured and installed oak kitchen and bath cabinets whose manufacturing facility was in Mexico.

Michael Woolf

Attorney, The Empire Group

Don Dyekman

Real Estate Attorney, Mariscal, Weeks, McIntyre & Friedlander P.C.

Jim Nierenberg

Instructor, Commercial Real Estate Institute

Jim is a Certified Land Sales Specialist and a Certified Commercial Sales Specialist. He was first working with First United Land Sales, and now is with Realty Executives Southern Arizona in Tucson. He is involved in land, commercial and industrial sales and leasing. Jim was with the Tucson Police Department for 32 years and also with the Arizona Air National Guard. He is retired from both of these careers. During these careers, he was an instructor in many capacities and was state certified.

Jim is a graduate of the University of Arizona and has a BS degree in Business Management. He also has many post-graduate credits.

John Lotardo

Senior V.P. General Counsel, Stewart Title and Trust

John T. Lotardo, aka the "TITLEMEN"™, is Senior Vice President and General Counsel for Stewart Title & Trust of Phoenix Inc, as well as State Underwriting and Claims Counsel for Stewart Title Guaranty Company. As a licensed attorney, Mr. Lotardo's practice entails all aspects of real estate as well as civil proceedings. He has been a member of many real estate related organizations including holding the position of President for the Arizona Trustee Association, an active member of the State Bar of Arizona, as well as bankruptcy, lending, foreclosure, legislative, judiciary and corporate organizations nationwide. He has been editor for the **Real Property Journal** for the State Bar of Arizona, and author of numerous columns including the popular "**Ask the TITLEMEN**"™, which is in print throughout the United States. It can be found on his website www.askthetitleman.com as well as other sites throughout the Internet.

Raoul Jacques

Consultant

Raoul is a retired lawyer and Arizona Bar Certified Real Estate Specialist and a former title insurance company officer. Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, he is a graduate of Marquette University and the University of Arizona Law School.

Vivi Somphon

Assistant Land Project Manager, Pulte Homes

Vivi Somphon is a graduate from Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies in Political Science and Justice Studies. ViVi has over 10 years of experience in real estate, starting as a paralegal to sole practitioner who specialized in areas of law including corporate transactions, real estate transactions, and estate planning. Currently, ViVi is an Assistant Project Manager for Pulte's West Valley Business Unit prior to managing their DRE Department. ViVi enjoys drag racing, kickboxing and golf, and dotes on her two goldens, Madison and Clark.

Richard K. Olsen

President, Allegiance Homes LLC

Richard graduated from Yale in 1961 with a BA degree in economics and pursued his postgraduate studies in management sciences at New York University's Bernard Baruch School of Business. He teaches license renewal classes to other brokers and has spoken on real estate matters before the Arizona Association of Realtors, the Arizona Trustees Association, the Arizona Bar, the REO Manager's Association of California, and the National District Attorneys' Association. An active volunteer member of the Arizona Association of Realtors, Mr. Olsen has served as their PAC Chairman, Legislative Chairman and Executive Committee Member. He has been President of the Sedona-Verde Valley Board of REALTORS and in 1982 was honored as that Board's Realtor of the Year. While a resident of Sedona Olsen specialized in the listing and sale of luxury retirement homes and building sites.

Bridget Reynolds

Owner/DB, BR Realty

Bridget is a continuing education instructor, residential broker, and licensed in Arizona since 1991, ABR, CRS, GRI. Bridget currently serves on the Phoenix Association of Realtors and the AAR and the AZREEA Board of Directors.

Suzanne Gammage

Broker/Owner, Gammage Realty

Suzanne Gammage holds a Bachelor's degree in Business and Commerce from the University of Houston, where she majored in Real Estate. She continued her education in sales, marketing and business classes at the Rice University Jones Graduate School's Executive Development Program. While maintaining her Real Estate Broker's license in Texas from 1981 to 2001, she enjoyed very successful "side" careers such as a marketing consultant to retirement communities nationwide. In 1998 she was licensed in the state of Arizona and soon formed Gammage Realty Group. Suzanne will graduate with the first class of ASU's Master of Real Estate Development program on May 11th. She and her husband reside in Phoenix.

Steve Gronek

Executive Director, Diversified Information Services Corporation

Steve is Executive Director of Diversified Information Services Corporation ("DISC"), a joint title-plant owned by six Valley title companies. In addition to maintaining a

database of real property records for Maricopa County, DISC provides real property information, recorded documents, maps and plats and consulting services to title companies, real estate agents and builders in the Phoenix metropolitan area. Steve has functioned in the Phoenix title insurance industry in various capacities for 35 years and, with DISC, now specializes in consulting services to subdividers with respect to obtaining AzDRE subdivision Public Reports.

Russell Aycock

First American Title Company

Jennifer Understahl

Attorney, Perkins Coie Brown & Bain P.A.

Jennifer focuses on business law and real estate and land use matters. She holds a J.D. from the Vanderbilt University Law School, a M.F.A. from ASU, and B.F.A. in English from the University of Evansville.

David Cook

Owner/Rancher, DC Cattle Co. LLC

David L. Cook is the managing member of DC Cattle CO., L.L.C. He and his family are ranchers near Globe. Their core business is managing the Phelps Dodge Miami's Diamante Ranch and reclamation work using cattle. David is a Certified Public Manager from the Arizona State University. He currently is Vice President of the Gila County Cattle Growers, Vice Chair of the Public Lands Council for the Arizona Cattle Growers Association, First Vice President of the Cobre Valley Republicans, a Globe Miami Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corporation board member, Chairman of the Southern Gila County Economic Development Corporations Public Land Group, and sits on the University of Arizona Gila County - Cooperative Extension Advisory Board. David is also the immediate Past President of the Gila County Sheriff's Posse Inc.

Mody Gruenberg

Montalbano Homes

Peter Spiller

Attorney, Mohr, Hackett, et al

Peter Spiller is an Arizona attorney who has been with Mohr, Hackett, Pederson, Blakley & Randolph, P.C. since 1981. His practice is primarily real estate and business transaction oriented. He has represented a variety of sophisticated developers, both residential and commercial, and has been involved in all stages of development, from acquisition, entitlement, imposition of restrictive covenants and sale. He has also represented lessors, lessees, lenders and borrowers. He received a law degree from the University of Minnesota and an undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado.

Dennis Rittenback

[Pinal County Planning and Development](#)

Dennis currently works as the Special Projects, subdivision coordinator for Pinal County. He has worked for Pinal County, Planning Department since January 1990. Prior to this, he worked as the Subdivision and Minor Land Division Administrator for Douglas County, Oregon, from June 1978 to December 1989. Dennis was employed as a Planner for Clatsop - Tillamook Intergovernmental Council, Oregon from August 1972 to June 1978.

Paul Donovan

[Land Entitlement Manager, Montalbano Homes of Arizona](#)

As a product of the Real Estate Industry with over 10-years of experience in property management and real estate development, Paul has worked in many facets including multi-family, commercial, and single-family development. Although working primarily in entitlements, Paul is well versed in each stage of development and looks to provide insight from the Real Estate Development Community and serve the best interests of Arizonans.
